

REMARKS

In the Office Action issued on December 28, 2006, claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,420,993 to Varon. Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Varon in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,408,404 to Ladwig. Claims 10-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Ladwig in view of Varon.

Claims 1-14 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 11, and 14 were amended to clarify the subject matter that the applicant considers to be the invention and claims 15 and 16 were amended.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention according to 1-8 are not unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,420,993 to Varon. Varon discloses a technique for predicting conflict between maneuvering and non-maneuvering aircrafts. The system receives input including flight data plans designating a route and target signal corresponding to a signal transmitted from, or reflected off of, an aircraft. The system updates and maintains target signals to monitor the locations and speed of aircrafts and generates alerts to indicate that one or more targets are physically closer than allowed using the information received. The system computes composite flight paths for aircrafts and predicts violations of separation standards.

In contrast, the present invention predict whether an alert should be issued because of conflicting natural language instructions. As now claims by claim 1, the present invention receives first and second natural language instructions. Varon fails to disclose the format of the flight data plans. In addition, target signal are clearly not natural language instructions. As now claimed by claim 1, the present invention determines an instruction type for each of the first and

second natural language instructions based on the content with the instructions. Varon fails to disclose this claimed limitation. Claim 1, as amended, now also recites extracting content from at least one of the first and second natural language instructions for execution as an instruction. There is no disclosure in Varon of extracting content from entered data flight plans or target signals for execution as an instruction. There is no actual processing of the flight data plans or target signals in the system of Varon. Varon applies the flight data plans and target signals as data for an algorithm that perform conflict prediction. Varon fails to teach or suggest the above-identified limitations. Accordingly, claim 1 of the present invention is not unpatentable over Varon.

Claims 2-8 depend from claim 1 and thus are not unpatentable over Varon for at least the reasons discussed with respect to claim 1.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention according to 9 is not unpatentable over Varon in view of Ladwig.

Ladwig does not cure the deficiencies of Varon. Ladwig teaches a system that sends and receives signals that include digital data streams and messages. The messages and data streams are retrieved by agents from a database that stores information received from various sources about events that have happened. See Ladwig col. 5, lines 35-37; col. 5, lines 53-55; col. 5, line 59-col. 6, line 5. the data streams are sorted using rules base. In addition to failing to cure the deficiencies of Varon, Ladwig fails to disclose periodically retrieving and processing content extracted from the first natural language instruction and second natural language instruction. There is no disclosure in Ladwig of extracting content from the data streams or messages for execution as an instruction. The messages and data streams merely include data about past events and are not instructions that are for execution in the future. The combination of Varon

and Ladwig fails to teach or suggest the above-identified limitations of claim 1 as well as the identified limitations in claim 9. Accordingly, claim 9 of the present invention is not unpatentable over Varon in view of Ladwig.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention according to 10 is not unpatentable over Ladwig in view Varon. Claims 10, as amended, now recites an input module for determining an instruction type for each of a first natural language instruction and a second natural language instruction based on content within the first natural language instruction and the second natural language instruction, extracting content from each of the first natural language instruction and the second natural language instruction received from at least one input device as an instruction related to a future event. Firstly, Ladwig receives information from databases and not input devices as required from claim 10. In addition, the messages or data streams include information about a past event and the category of information can be determined and actions performed on the information in accordance with instructions or rules. However, information about past events does not correspond to content extracted from an instructions related to a future event that can be executed. Secondly, Ladwig fails to discloses a rule-based analyzer that generates an alert if execution of content extracted from the first natural language and second natural language instruction creates a potential conflict.

Varon does not cure the deficiencies of Ladwig. Accordingly, the combination of Ladwig and Varon fails to teach or suggest the invention claimed in claim 10. Claims 11-14 depend from claim 10 and thus are not taught or suggested for the reasons discussed with respect to claim 10.

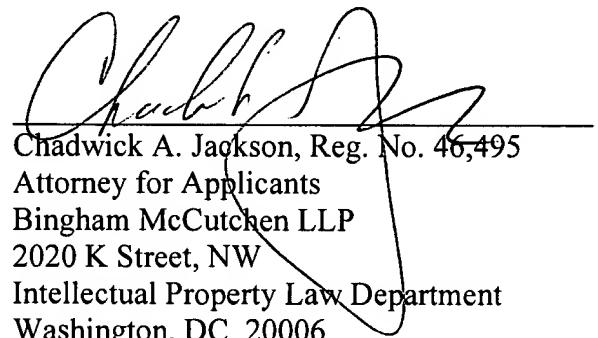
Additional Fees:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-4047 (25389.0009).

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, all of the Examiner's rejections to the claims are believed to be overcome. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all the claims remaining in the application. Should the Examiner feel further communication would facilitate prosecution, he is urged to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below.

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